

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-02
MCT-01 /094 W
-----091710Z 096785 /53

P 091040Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6404
INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY RABAT

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, AG, FR
SUBJECT: BOUTEFLIKA TAKES ON THE FRENCH

1. ALGERIAN MEDIA MAY 7-8 HIGHLIGHT DECLARATION BY
FONMIN BOUTEFLIKA ON FRANCE. DECLARATION TERMS FRENCH
FONMIN DE GUIRINGAUD'S STATEMENT CONCERNING POLISARIO
RAID ON ZOUEURATT AS "ATTEMPT TO IMPLICATE ALGERIA"
IN THIS ATTACK. DECLARATION ALSO CITES FRENCH
COOPERATION MINISTER GALLEY'S MORE RECENT STATEMENT
THAT FRANCE "ACTS ONLY IF INVITED
TO DO SO" AS SHOWING THAT DE GUIRINGAUD'S REMARK NOT
BASED ON EMOTION OR "IMPROVISATION." GALLEY HAD BEEN
ASKED IF FRANCE CONTEMPLATED ZAIRE-STYLE INTERVENTION
IN SAHARA.

2. BOUTEFLIKA'S DECLARATION GOES ON TO MAKE FOLLOWING
POINTS:

A. FRENCH STATEMENTS CONTRAST WITH GISCARD'S
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MARCH 5, 1976 MESSAGE TO BOUMEDIENE EXPRESSING
WISH FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH RABS AND FOR AGREEMENT
ON METHOD OF CONSULTATION WITH SAHRAOUI PEOPLE.
BOUMEDIENE, DECLARATION NOTES, RESPONDED POSITIVELY
TO GISCARD'S MESSAGE.

B. ALGERIA HAS ALWAYS SUPPORTED LIBERATION

MOVEMENTS INCLUDING POLISARIO. THIS ATTITUDE CONFORMS WITH OAU AND UN RESOLUTIONS. "IN NAME OF WHAT LAW AND WHAT MORALITY" CAN ONE PREVENT A PEOPLE FROM CHOOSING ITS DESTINY FREELY. FRANCE, WITH ITS INTERESTS IN MEDITERRANEAN AND MAGHREB AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES AS UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBER, SHOULD UNDERSTAND AND ADMIT THIS. SAHARA PROBLEM WILL REMAIN UNRESOLVED FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS LONG AS SELF-DETERMINATION NOT ACHIEVED.

C. NEW FRENCH STATEMENTS BETRAY DISQUIETING CHANGE IN FRENCH POSITION AND HARBOR NEW DANGER FOR AFRICAN CONTINENT, WHICH HAS ALWAYS SHOWN ITSELF ABLE TO SOLVE ITS PROBLEMS WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERVENTION. SUCH ADVENTURISM DANGEROUS NOT ONLY FOR AFRICA BUT FOR WHOLE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND INTERVENTION IN AFRICA DOES NOT SQUARE WELL WITH FRENCH POSITION THAT AFRICA SHOULD BE FOR AFRICANS. SOUTHERN AFRICAN PEOPLES SHOULD BEWARE OF THOSE WHO SUDDENLY DISCOVER PASSION FOR LIBERTY.

D. AFRICAN COUNTRIES MUST THUS FACE NEW GLOBAL STRATEGY OF FOSTERING TENSION AND INSTABILITY THROUGHOUT THIRD WORLD, AND OF CREATING POWER CENTERS AND MILITARY INTERVENTIONS, AND OF MANEUVERING BY IMPERIALISTS TO SOW DISORDER AND CREATE DEPENDENCE.

E. DESPITE FRENCH THREATS AND ATTEMPTS AT INTIMIDATION, AS WELL AS COLONIAL EXPERIENCE, ALGERIANS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAVE STRIVEN FOR BETTER RELATIONS WITH FRANCE. CAN CONVERSE BE SAID FOR GOF?

3. PRESS ALSO CARRIES EXTENSIVE QUOTATIONS FROM PREVIOUSLY UNPUBLISHED AND CONCILIATORY EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES BETWEEN BOUMEDIENE AND GISCARD OF MARCH 1976.

4. COMMENT: ALGERIAN-FRENCH RELATIONS THUS MOVE FURTHER BACK INTO DEEP FREEZE, A SITUATION WHICH DOES NOT BODE WELL FOR SIX HOSTAGES SEIZED BY POLISARIO AT ZOUERATT. BOUTEFLIKA'S DECLARATION WITH ALL ITS REFERENCES TO IMPERIALIST PLOTTING, IS WELL TAILORED FOR ALGERIAN AND AFRICAN AUDIENCE AND PUTS REGIME BACK ON EMOTIONALLY SATISFYING WICKET FOLLOWING PERIOD OF RESTRAINT ON ZAIRE SITUATION. LYNE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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